

REMARKS

A new independent claim 29 and new dependent claims 30 – 32 ultimately depending from claim 29 have been added. Claims 15 - 32 are currently pending in the present application.

In the Office Action, claims 15, 18, 26, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Carabet US Patent No. 2,958,894.

In the Office Action, claims 16, 17, 19-25, and 28 are objected to but are indicated as allowable if properly rewritten.

With respect to the prior art rejections of claims 15, 18, 26, and 27, favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following comments.

Independent claim 15 of the present application recites a vacuum cleaner comprising a housing containing a housing part for receiving components of electrical appliances and a dust compartment which can be closed by a dust compartment cover that is pivotally mounted to the housing for movement between a closed position wherein the dust compartment is closed and an open position wherein the dust compartment is opened. The dust compartment cover is provided with a socket for the electrical supply of additional appliances and the socket is connected to an electrical cable leading out of the housing part, wherein the housing is provided with a cable compartment for automatically inserting a section of the electrical cable during pivoting of the dust compartment cover from the open position to the closed position which closes the dust compartment.

Carabet '894 discloses a vacuum cleaner 10 having an upper hemispherical section 13 that can pivot about a hinge 14 relative to a lower hemispherical section 12. A pair of conductors 57, 58 each have one end secured to an inner surface of the upper hemispherical section 13 and an opposite end secured to a respective terminal 56 that is secured to a metallic bulkhead 22 secured to the interior of the lower hemispherical section 12.

It is submitted that Carabet '894 does not teach or disclose the vacuum cleaner recited in claim 15 of the present application. For example, Carabet '894 does not teach or disclose that its vacuum cleaner 10 includes a "housing ... provided with a cable compartment for automatically inserting a section of the electrical cable during pivoting of the dust compartment cover from the open position to the closed position which closes the dust compartment", as recited in claim 15 of the present application. Instead, as seen, for example, in Figure 2 of Carabet '894, the pair of conductors 57, 58 of the Carabet '894 are not inserted, let alone "automatically" inserted, during pivoting of the upper hemispherical section 13 relative to a lower hemispherical section 12 from an open position of the upper hemispherical section 13 to a closed position. Thus, favorable reconsideration of claim 15, and claims 18, 26, and 27 depending ultimately therefrom, is respectfully requested.

It is also submitted that new claims 29 – 32 patentably define over the prior art of record. New independent claim 29 of the present application recites a vacuum cleaner having a housing containing a cable compartment and a housing part for receiving components of electrical appliances. The inventive vacuum cleaner also includes a dust compartment, a dust compartment cover that is movably mounted to the housing for movement between a closed position wherein the dust compartment is closed by the dust compartment cover and an open position wherein the dust compartment is opened, and a socket mounted to the dust compartment cover, the socket for the electrical supply of additional appliances. The vacuum cleaner recited in new independent claim 29 of the present application also includes an electrical cable. The electrical cable has one end connected to the socket that is mounted to the dust compartment cover, an opposite end connectable to an electrical lead, and a free section at a location between the one end and the opposite end. As further recited in new independent claim 29 of the present application, the inventive vacuum additionally includes means for engaging the electrical cable at an upstream

location thereon between the free section and the one end to hold the upstream location of the electrical cable at a fixed position relative to the dust compartment cover and means for engaging the electrical cable at a downstream location thereon between the free section and the opposite end to hold the downstream location of the electrical cable at a fixed position relative to the cable compartment. The free section extends between the cable compartment and the dust compartment cover. A movement of the dust compartment cover from its open position to its closed position effects an insertion of the free section of the electrical cable into the cable compartment and a movement of the dust compartment cover from its closed position to its open position effecting a withdrawal of the inserted free section of the electrical cable from the cable compartment.

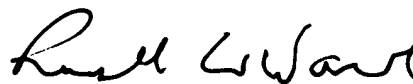
It can be seen, for example, that Carabet '894 does not teach or disclose the vacuum cleaner recited in new claim 29 of the present application. For example, Carabet '894 does not teach or disclose that the pair of conductors 57, 58 are provided with a "free section" that extends between the cable compartment and the dust compartment cover and whereby a movement of the dust compartment cover from its open position to its closed position effects an insertion of the free section of the electrical cable into the cable compartment and a movement of the dust compartment cover from its closed position to its open position effecting a withdrawal of the inserted free section of the electrical cable from the cable compartment.

Thus, it is submitted that new claim 29, and claims 30 – 32 depending ultimately therefrom, patentably define over the prior art of record and are allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, entry of the present Amendment and allowance of claims 15 - 32 are respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned. If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russell W. Warnock".

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